

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are submitted under 35 U.S.C. § 132 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 in response to the Office Action mailed June 27, 2003. Claims 1-17 remain in this application.

In the June 27, 2003 Office Action, the Examiner stated that Claims 1-2, and 14-17 (Group I) are restricted from Claim 3 (Group II). The Examiner requires an election of one of two species for examination in the event that the first group of inventions, identified in I. above, is elected. The species identified by the Examiner are Embodiment 1 shown in Figure 1, and an Embodiment 2 shown in Figures 16 and 17.

In response, Applicant respectfully traverses the restrictions for Claims 1-17. Applicant has amended Claim 3. Applicant has amended Figures 16 and 17 in order to clarify these figures. The specification has been amended to correct a minor typographical error.

Response to Restriction identifying Group I and Group II Inventions

The Examiner stated that Claims 1-2, and 14-17 (Group I) are restricted from Claim 3 (Group II). In response, Applicant has converted Claim 3 from an independent claim to a dependent claim. Claim 3, as amended, depends from Claim 1. The embodiment claimed in Claim 3, as amended, is narrower in scope than the embodiment claimed in Claim 1, from which it depends. In view of the amendment, Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction since Claim 3, as amended, is not a distinct invention from Claims 1-2, and 4-17. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Response To Restriction Identifying Two Different Species

The Examiner has required an election of one of two species for examination in the event that the first group of inventions, identified in I. above, is elected. The species identified by the Examiner are Embodiment 1 shown in Figure 1, and an Embodiment 2 shown in Figures 16 and 17. As discussed above, in view of the amendment to Claim 3 herein, Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement regarding Group I and II be withdrawn, thereby making an election of species moot. Applicant also respectfully disagrees and traverses the requirement for an election of species on the grounds that the species identified by the Examiner are not

patentably distinct. In response, Applicant has amended Figures 16 and 17 in order to make it more clear that the embodiment shown in FIG. 1 and the embodiment shown in FIGs. 16 and 17 are not patentably distinct.

In Figures 16 and 17, as amended, the previously omitted reference characters 80, 81, and 83 have been added. This drawing correction is supported by the specification and drawings as filed. No new matter has been added. As stated in the specification (e.g., page 3, line 10 - page 4, lines 4): FIGs. 1 to 3 show different isometric views of the transformer 100 according to an embodiment of the invention; FIG. 16 is a side view of a transformer, identified as 100, disposed between two circuit boards; and FIG. 17 is a top view of the transformer 100 disposed between two circuit boards.

Reference characters 80, 81 and 83 correspond to structures for receiving a circuit board as described in the specification and shown in the drawings. As stated in the specification (e.g., page 3, line 10 - page 4, lines 4): FIGs. 1 to 3 show different isometric views of the transformer 100 according to an embodiment of the invention; FIG. 16 is a side view of a transformer, identified as 100, disposed between two circuit boards 101 and 102; and FIG. 17 is a top view of the transformer 100 disposed between the two circuit boards 101 and 102. Each reference character added in FIGs. 16 and 17 is discussed in further detail below.

Reference character 80 has been added in FIG. 17 in order to further clarify the drawing. Element 80, also shown in FIG. 1, is a structure for receiving a circuit board. As shown in FIG. 1 and described in the specification (e.g., page 6 line 20 - page 7, line 4), structure 80 includes two protrusions extending away from an outer surface of one of the flange portions 21(a). When a circuit board is mounted to the flange portion 21(a), the circuit board is sandwiched between the protrusions and is parallel to the walls 26, 27, 46, 47 of the bobbin members 20, 40.

Reference character 81 has been added in FIGs. 16 and 17 in order to further clarify these drawings. FIG. 2 shows another view of the transformer 100. As shown in FIG. 2 and described in the specification (e.g., page 8 lines 13-22), the first bobbin member 40 of transformer 100 may include a recess 81 (e.g., a slot) for receiving a printed circuit board.

Reference character 83 has been added in FIGs. 16 and 17 in order to further clarify these drawings. FIG. 3 shows another view of the transformer 100. The specification has been amended to correct a minor typographical error. As shown in FIG. 3 and described in the specification, as amended herein, (page 8, line 23 - page 9, line 6), transformer 100 includes a

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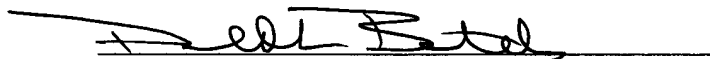
recessed structure 83 for receiving a side-mounted printed circuit board (not shown in FIG. 3).
The recessed structure 83 is at a corner region of the second bobbin member 20.

As shown in FIGs. 16 and 17, and described in the specification (page 14, lines 1-6), two circuit boards 101, 102 are disposed on opposite sides of a transformer 100. The circuit boards 101, 102 may be within their own respective planes and parallel to each other, or they may be within the same plane. The views of transformer 100 in FIGs. 16 and 17, as amended, show structure 83 for receiving circuit board 102. FIGs. 16 and 17 as amended, also show structure 81 for receiving circuit board 101. The top view in Fig. 17, as amended, also shows one of the two protrusions of structure 80 that receives the circuit board 101 on the same plane as structure 81.

Thus, FIGs. 16 and 17 shows transformer 100, shown in FIGs. 1-3, and also includes the two circuit boards received by the respective structures 80, 81, and 83. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the embodiment of the present invention shown in FIG. 1 and the embodiment shown in FIGs. 16 and 17 are not patentably distinct.

Applicant thus respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the election/restriction requirement. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (650) 470-2900.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments

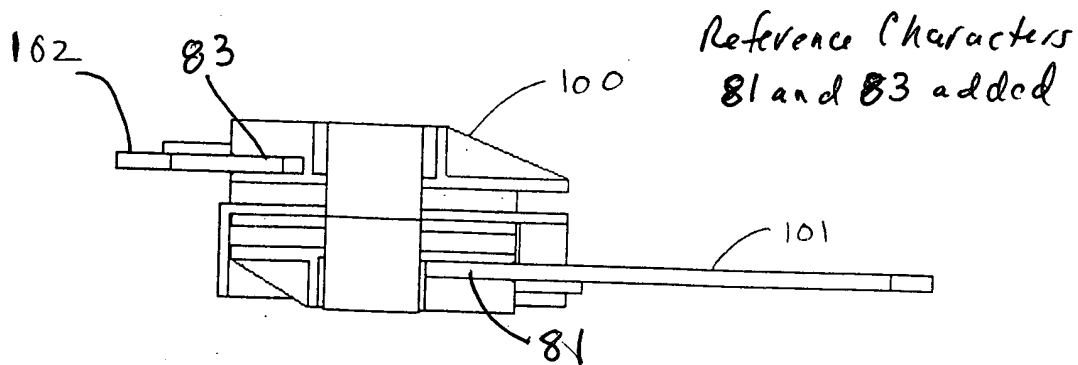


FIG. 16

Reference Characters
80, 81, and 83
added

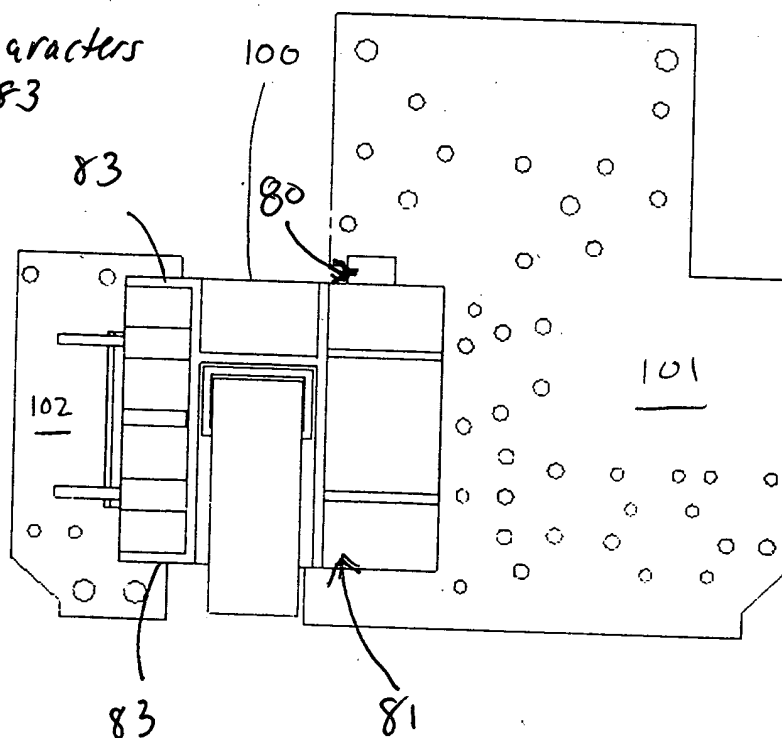


FIG. 17